

THANK YOU!

The LMH hospital and clinic staff along with the Sutton County Hospital District Board of Directors are very grateful and appreciative to the community at large. We are especially thankful to those who choose LMH as their first choice for healthcare services.



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April 27, 2017

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Volume 128
Issue 17



The Devil's River News

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP & STRONG • COVERING THE NEWS IN SONORA AND SUTTON COUNTY SINCE 1890



Tate Shannon. | COURTESY PHOTO

Tate Wins State

Sonora High School scholar Tate Shannon was awarded the District 3-A UIL State Champion in Literary Criticism Saturday, April 22, 2017.

He followed last year's State bronze-medal achievement with this year's solid gold performance.

Hats Off to County Commissioners

Sutton County Commissioners took care of business while sporting baseball style caps as part of the "Hats off to Texas Counties" campaign during a special meeting Monday, April 24, 2017.

The Texas Association of Counties is making the public aware of the good work performed by county employees. Everyone is encouraged to thank county officials and employees for their service.

In regular business, commissioners approved the minutes of the April 17, 2017 meeting and the accounts payable. As part of the discussion regarding the accounts payable, commissioners discussed a request by Judge Jody Harris to purchase a new printer for the JP's office. The court approved a budget amendment allowing for the expense.

Next, they approved entering into a new agreement with Hill Country Software for a new Xerox proposal.

In other business, commissioners approved a clothing allowance for SC Sheriff's office employees. They also approved the purchase of six tasers for the Sheriff's department. The cost includes tasers, batteries, maintenance and replacement. Additionally, the court approved the purchase of two dump

SEE COMMISSIONERS ON PAGE 10

SISD Trustees Hold Special Meeting

The Sonora ISD Board of Trustees took no action following a special meeting Friday, April 21, 2017.

Board members met behind closed doors to discuss Board Members and Superintendent expectations, duties and responsibilities related to district revenue decreases and future planning priorities.

Talk also included discussion regarding district programs and district staffing including district administrative positions, according to the agenda.

Upon returning to open session, no action was taken and the meeting was adjourned.

Board President Dawn Cahill presided over the meeting. Trustees Brady Johnson, Jerry Jimenez, Shana Castro, Cynthia Perez and Dawn Killough were present. Jesse Bustamante was absent.

The next regular meeting of the Sonora ISD is set for May 15, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. at the Vocational Building.

One Person Injured in Crash Monday Afternoon

One person was taken by ambulance to a local hospital following a crash Monday afternoon, April 24, 2017.

The female driver of a Honda passenger was trapped in her car after being struck by the driver of a pickup truck at the intersection of Crockett Street and Main Street. Rescue personnel used the Jaws of Life to extricate her.

She was taken to Hudspeth hospital with what appeared to be non-incapacitating injuries.

She was wearing a seat belt. One passenger was treated at the scene.

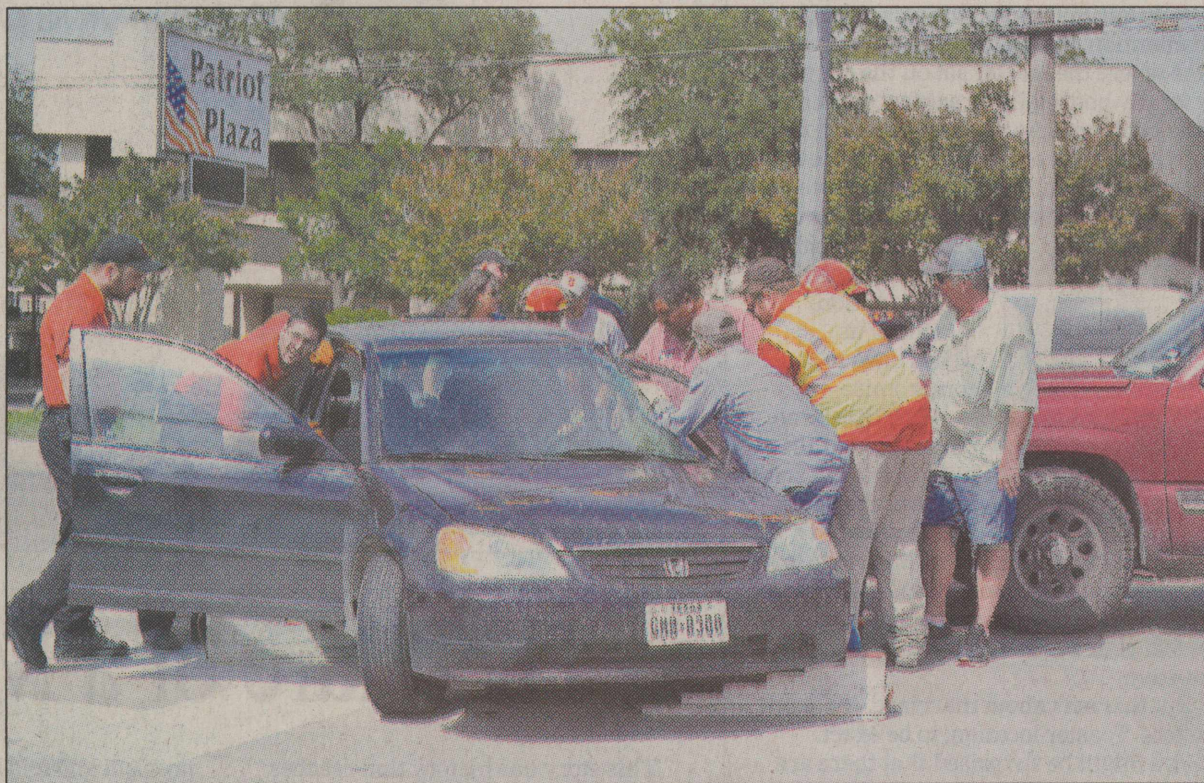
The driver of a pickup truck was not injured.

Four other passengers, including a child were not injured.

Sonora Police, DPS, EMS, Sutton County Sheriff and volunteer Fire and Rescue personnel were on scene.

The cause of the crash is still being investigated.

More details will be reported when they are made available.



An unidentified female driver was trapped in her vehicle following a crash Monday, April 24, 2017. Emergency rescue personnel used the Jaws of Life to extricate the driver from her vehicle. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Neighbor Meeting Neighbor



Dr. Jake Landers (far right) is on hand to answer questions about West Texas range plants while Wendell Epperson and Joe David Ross help set up a plant identification station Saturday, April 22, 2017 during the Field Day at the Sonora Research Station. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

"Heritage, Homestead & Habitat" Theme for Field Day at Sonora Research Station

A crowd of about seventy people participated in the third annual "Neighbor Meeting Neighbor" Field Day Saturday, April 22, 2017, at the Texas A&M AgriLife Research Station between Sonora and Rocksprings.

The theme for this year's event, "Heritage, Homestead and Habitat," focused on the importance of people working together to better understand issues affecting living and ranching in West Texas.

"Neighbors need neighbors," Bonnie Lou Campbell said.

"Back in the day, neighbors were the only way for newcomers to learn about issues affecting the land, livestock and life in this area. Getting people together to share and help educate each other is still important today."

While listening to speakers and rotating through

educational workshops, patrons enjoyed coffee made atop a campfire stove and a chuckwagon style lunch.

Patrons enjoyed a variety of workshops including plant response to fire, Edwards Plateau wildlife and a lamb cooking demonstration.

During their free time, visitors caught up on conversation while watching sheep shearing and sheep dog demonstrations. Some even tested their knowledge by participating in a plant identification contest.

Dr. Jake Landers, West Texas plant expert was also on hand to answer questions.

Familiar faces at the station, Tom Payton and Dr. Charles "Butch" Taylor were also recognized for their decades of contributions to research and education benefiting all ranchers and land owners.

In addition to hearing a special presentation by William Edmiston, patrons listened to Congressman Will Hurd speak on matters affecting our government and current legislation.

Aside from all of the drama on the hill, Hurd said that he and other lawmakers are making progress on passing pieces of legislation that benefit everyone including those in the 23rd legislative district.

Here at home, Hurd said he is actively working on issues including Grain Inspection Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA), USDA Confidentiality Agreement, Reauthorization of the Livestock Mandatory Reporting, H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers and the Texas Farm Bill.

On a bigger scale, Hurd said he is working with others to block legislation that would ultimately

affect the property rights of all land owners including those in rural areas who rely on ranching and farming to exist. Maintaining that he will continue to be a voice for the people of West Texas and the 23rd Congressional District Hurd said he is confident that the current legislation will survive and improve.

"Look, it is my pleasure to be doing this," Hurd said. Land and livestock is important to the people out here. I will keep working to protect what is important to the folks in this area."

Wrapping up a full day of events, visitors were entertained with a big screen virtual tour of the station grounds collected via a drone and a Juniper Eating Goat auction.

"I think we had a good crowd today," Campbell said. "Bringing people together - this is what it's all about."

House Passes Legislation to Reform School Finance Law

AUSTIN — The Texas House of Representatives on April 19 approved school finance legislation that would reduce the amount of local tax dollars that property-rich school districts are required to share with other school districts under the so-called "Robin Hood" process.

House Bill 21 by House Public Education Committee Chair Dan Huberty, R-Houston, passed on a vote of 134-16. It would increase per-student state funding for most school districts and charter schools and would adjust formulas used to calculate how much funding the state sends to school districts.

House Speaker Joe Straus, who designated school finance reform a top priority

for lawmakers to address in the 85th session of the Texas Legislature, lauded the passage of HB 21. "Texas public schools are doing a good job and House Bill 21 will make them even better," Straus said. "This bill puts needed resources into Texas classrooms. It begins to bring long-overdue improvements to our school finance formulas. And it reduces the impact of Robin Hood by keeping more local dollars in local schools.

"Parents and taxpayers know that our school finance system needs reform. House Bill 21 begins to implement those reforms," added Straus. "If this type of legislation does not become law, property taxes will increase and more school districts will

send their local dollars to other parts of the state. We cannot and should not continue to put more and more of the burden on property taxes. Fully reforming our school finance system may take several years and much more work but now is the right time to start."

Senate tackles school finance

Meanwhile, on April 19, the Senate Education Committee heard testimony on SB 2145, legislation that would change the way the funding of public education is calculated.

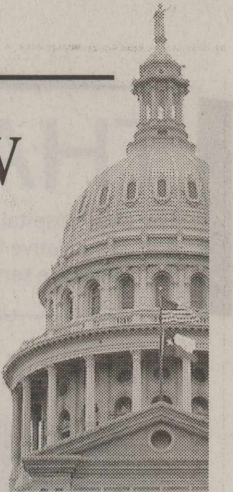
Written by the committee's chair, Sen. Larry Taylor, R-Friendswood, SB 2145 would reduce the current,

multi-layered formula to what he referred to as "a single line."

Taylor said his bill would make school funding "simpler, easier to understand and more equitable" by repealing all or part of 49 separate sections of the Education Code and put projected savings from efficiencies back into the system.

As redesigned by Taylor, five instructional allotments would be added together:

SEE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS ON PAGE 8



STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Ed Sterling

Where's Your Toaster?

We keep our toaster in the cupboard. Early in our marriage, this was a point of contention. My husband grew up in a home where the toaster sat on the counter. My family housed the breakfast appliance in the cupboard. As newlyweds, each of us was comfortable and happy with our own location of origin. But we couldn't have it both ways — unless we got two toasters or a

Slices of Life



By Jill Pertler

divorce and neither of those seemed like a viable option.

One of us would have to compromise. With this issue, I managed to talk him over to my side. But over the years I've acquiesced a

time or two in his direction. Marriage is a partnership. And cooperation. And changing where you keep your toaster or how you fold your socks. And change is hardly ever easy.

But this isn't about marriage. It's about toasters. Toaster location, to be exact.

You might be surprised that there are actual articles written about the location of one's toaster. I was surprised. Bloggers are blogging about toasters and people like me are Googling those blogs.

The chatter is mostly about cleanliness and decluttering one's kitchen. One might think a person who stores their toaster in the cupboard is neater than one who leaves it on the counter.

I don't think this is the case.

I stumbled on this concept last week while eating a piece of toast and thereafter putting the toaster away. As I did, I noted the appliance was a crumb-laden, scorch-filled mess — far from what I'd call neat. The cupboard wasn't much better. It, too, was littered with crumbs. Each time someone puts the toaster in the cupboard a few crumbs fall out the bottom, accumulating over time.

We don't notice, really, because the toaster sits atop the crumbs and the cupboard door shuts and our mess is out of sight, out of mind.

If I kept my toaster on the counter, I wouldn't be able to ignore a pileup of crumbs. I'd probably wipe them away every morning after breakfast. I'd be more cognizant of the appearance of my toaster and more prone to give it a quick swipe with a soapy dishcloth or paper towel.

People who keep their toasters (and myriad other household objects) in the cupboard might appear decluttered, but they may be a whole lot messier than someone with an overloaded countertop.

Just because you can't see someone's toast crumbs doesn't mean they aren't there. I said this column was about toasters. I guess I lied.

It's about life and crumbs and what we do with them — because we all have crumbs and splotches on our stainless and scorched spots where we'd rather not be scorched. We all wrestle with real issues and problems and wonder if our efforts are enough or if we should be trying harder. We worry and ruminate about the metaphorical crumbs in our life that won't even be a metaphorical blip on our radar in a year, much less five. We get tired sometimes. We all struggle with how to keep our toasters and cupboards and counters squeaky clean — or at least have them appear that way to others.

This makes me sigh.

Let's just say I have crumbs, and I know you do too. But crumbs are inconsequential. They aren't important in the big scheme. I won't point yours out if you'll return the favor. I'd love it if we could agree to embrace our collective crumbs and get on with the much more important business of living.

Now on to tackling the issue of how to fold socks...

Jill Pertler is an award-winning syndicated columnist, published playwright, author and member of the National Society of Newspaper Columnists. Don't miss a slice, follow the Slices of Life page on Facebook.



The Flare of a Match

This story has history that reaches way back. So, let's clear up the cause of this tale before going any further.

Back in the 1930s when my mother owned the ranch she gave an elderly rancher, who joined the property in Brewster County, permission to build a ranch road through us to reach highway 90. This was verbal and meant for ranching purposes only. As a small boy, I witnessed that verbal agreement.

The next part of this story begins when the Brewster County Ranch sold several times.

Then, a real estate developer bought the old ranch and subdivided it to 50 one-section owners. These owners came out of the Houston, San Antonio, Austin and Dallas and had no version of the country etiquette of ranching in the desert.

To these people this was their license to go out west and camp and shoot up all the wildlife.

Now, their road went through my ranch for about seven miles.

These land owners brought their friends out to their West Texas ranch in groups of 10 or 20 vehicles, campers, and trailer horses.

They left many gates open, shot up my windmills, tanks, and deer.

When I would contact these people, no one owned up to any damage. It was always some other group who had done the damage.

The final insult came when they left after a week or 10 days of camping and they dumped their trash on my land before reaching highway 90.

Then, they leased grazing rights to an old rancher who stocked the ranch with cattle and came through me every day to tend to his heard.

I talked to this old rancher about the

problem and told him I was going to lock the gate and close the road to all but him and his ranch hands.

His answer was that I could not do that as he had been driving that road before I was born.

On the basis of the old man's attitude, I put a lock on the gate. He shot it off. Then I took a 20 foot log chain and put it across the gate with both locks on the ends. He took a cutting torch and cut my chain

into 2 foot pieces, totally destroyed.

I went to town and hunted the old man up to discuss our problem.

But, there was no room for discussion. He stated that there was no way to keep him off my road. Then, I informed him that I would file trespassing charges on him at the Pecos County Court house. Which I did.

Then, he and all the owners filed a lawsuit against me for the amount of one million dollars for damaging the value of their property.

We met in the court, in Ft. Stockton, where the judge read that I would let him travel through to tend his cattle but, the owners would stay out until this case was settled.

We both lived in Sanderson and both went to the ranch every morning about 6 a.m. I began to see a vehicle parked the gate every morning so I went on around the to another gate in the interest of peace. One morning, I decided to reach an agreement.

The night before I had several calls telling me to leave this old man alone as he was dangerous and would have his way or else.

I left highway 90 and went over the gate. He was sitting there smoking a cigarette. In the lights of my pickup, I could see no gun or weapons so I got out and approached him. He lit another smoke with a kitchen match, which let out quite a flame. Then he stated, "You will drop the foolish lawsuit right now as it is costing me a lot of money."

I answered, "No way. Let's let this go to a jury and decided who is right."

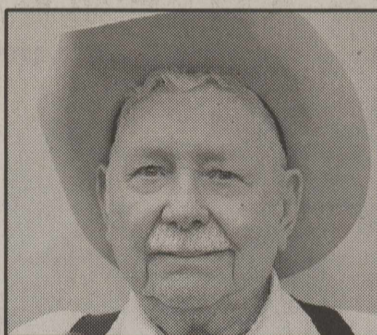
The old rancher snubbed out his cigarette, frowned at me and then got in his pickup and drove off.

We won the court case and the judge ordered the road in question to be closed to all traffic.

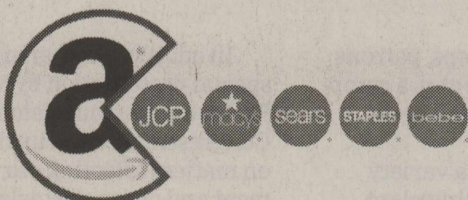
The old man died of a heart attack in bed during all this time.

But, many years later, every time I thought of that meeting, I wondered if the fire of that match might have brought on the smell of the gun powder.

It Happened Out West



by Joe N. Brown



Why does the early bird always get the worm? Because he reads about it in THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS CLASSIFIED ADS

Liberty Has Concrete Bells

Liberty, Texas has an exact replica of the original liberty bell in Philadelphia. It hung for a long time in a downtown plaza and was rung on special occasions. The bell is inoperative now due to damage from hurricanes. Various fundraisers



by Tumbleweed Smith

Rolling Along

are in place to get the bell repaired. Bill Brackin of Liberty has a lake house in Jacksonville, which is known as the tomato

capital of the United States. All over town concrete tomatoes are displayed in front of businesses and homes. These are giant tomatoes weighing hundreds of pounds and decorated in different colors and designs. Some offices or stores put their business names on the tomatoes and place them at the entrance of their buildings.

Bill was in Jacksonville at a time when he was looking for a fundraiser for his Rotary club. He's been a Rotarian 33 years.

"All of a sudden when I saw those concrete tomatoes it just kind of rung a bell with me. I thought it would be a great idea to have bells made of concrete and sell them to residences and businesses in Liberty."

He searched Google and discovered that Texas Tradition Molds in Lufkin makes molded concrete.

"I called and said what I wanted to make and the person I talked to was very interested and said the company could make the concrete bells. It just so happens that Liberty National Bank had just come out with a commemorative mug in the shape of the Liberty Bell. I sent one of these and asked if it was possible to make a replica in concrete. I said it must weigh at least 300 pounds so it can't be stolen and I want it to be at least three feet tall so if a lawyer buys one the name of the firm or street address can go on the bell."

Personnel at the company said they could comply with the requirements and sent Bill a design.

"I showed it to the Rotary club and the members gave their enthusiastic approval. We made sure we had Rotary International on the back of the bells, which sell for \$300. Half goes to Rotary, half goes to repair the city's bell."

When word from the company came that a sample bell was ready, Bill drove to Lufkin to pick it up.

"I loaded it on the back of my trailer, took it to the Rotary meeting and all the Rotarians got to come out and look at it. I was a little nervous but the bell looked so good I just knew they would like it and of course they did. We pre-sold approximately 20 bells right away."

Now the concrete bells are all over Liberty.

"I enjoy driving through town and seeing the ideas people have come up with."

Heard Around Town

My friend refused to go with me to a baseball game because he said it was too boring. After the game, I found him at home watching golf on TV.

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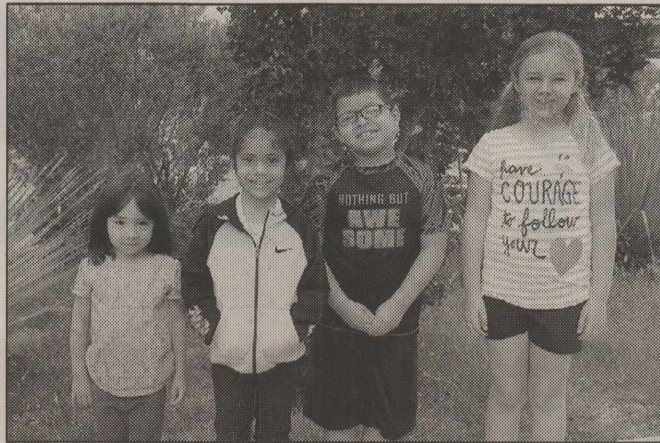
Meredith Earwood bride elect of Bill Allen
May 20, 2017

Taylor Narvaiz bride elect of Tyler Creek
June 10, 2017

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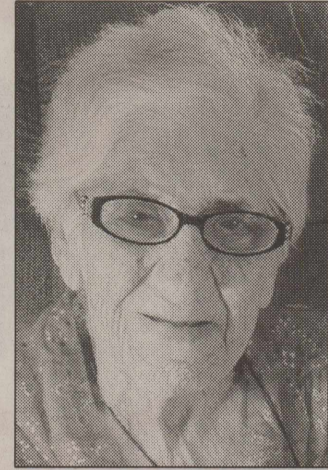
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Sonora Elementary School Students for the week of April 24-28, 2017, Emily Mota, Pre-K, Lyla Solis, K, Noah Pruneda, 1st, Kyndall Wetton, 2nd.

OBITUARIES

Oda Mae Spring May 1, 1922 - April 20, 2017



in being a wife, mom and grandmother to so many. There was always room for one more at Mumow's kitchen table, whether it was to eat her wonderful cooking, play cards or dominoes, work a jigsaw puzzle or sit and visit and enjoy a glass of her famous sweet tea. She never met a stranger and would generously give you the shirt off her back.

Her life was not an easy road but she never complained and lived it to the fullest.

Her strength and dignity was an inspiration to us all

A celebration of her life was held Monday, April 24, 2017 at 11:00 a.m. at the Church of Christ in Sonora, followed by her burial at the Sonora Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Kevin West, Keith West, Louis Olenick, Jr., Clifton Lipham, Robert Telles and Rick Cearley.

Honorary pallbearers will be her remaining grandchildren.

She will be greatly missed and will live forever in our hearts.

"It's not goodbye, it's until we meet again."

"The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou prepares a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the day of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."

- Psalm 23:1-5

Oda Mae Farris Crawford Spring, lovingly known as Mumow, age 94, passed peacefully in her home of 56 years on April 20, 2017, surrounded by family.

She was born to Jeff and Emma Farris on May 1, 1922 in Hall Valley, TX.

She married the love of her life, Doyle Ray Crawford on September 28, 1940 in Brady. They were married 39 years.

Survivors include her four children, Shirley West of San Angelo, Frances Tackel and husband, Steve of Sonora, Rhonda Blackman and husband, James, also of Sonora, Blaine Crawford and wife, Terri of Ozona and fifteen grandchildren, Maray Cearley, Kevin West, Keith West, Sissy Nichols, Louis Olenick, Jr. Michelle Lipham, Darla Lipham, Kathlene Sutton, Angela Ervin, Christy Telles, Shellye Terrell, Lorna Olenick, Jesse Blaine Crawford, Jaaron Crawford and Rayonna Blackman.

She is also survived by thirty-one great grandchildren and twenty great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three brothers, her first husband, Doyle Crawford, two daughters, Nova Olenick and Sandra Strickland, two sons-in-law, Louis Olenick and Gene West and her second husband, Walter Spring.

Mumow took great pride

Sonora ISD Students of the Week

EATON HILL NATURE CENTER & PRESERVE



Sonora Intermediate School Students for the week of April 24-28, 2017, Gavin Covarrubiaz, 3rd, Johnathan Cardenas, 4th, Ileana Baker, 5th.



Sonora Middle School Students for the week of April 24-28, 2017, Ari De Luna, 6th, Alex Cardenas, 7th, Felipe Estrada, 8th.

VOTE

DAVID
FISHER

for
SISD Board of Trustees Precinct 3

May 6th

"I will protect the interests of OUR KIDS, OUR TEACHERS, and YOUR TAX DOLLAR. I have spent many hours volunteering for youth through 4-H and youth sports and now I would like the opportunity to serve on your school board for your youth. It is clearly time for a change at SISD, if you agree please vote for David Fisher for SISD Board of Trustees Precinct 3.

Political ad paid for by David Fisher

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Sunrise 7:03 a.m. Sunset 8:18 p.m.	Sunrise 7:02 a.m. Sunset 8:18 p.m.	Sunrise 7:01 a.m. Sunset 8:19 p.m.	Sunrise 7:00 a.m. Sunset 8:20 p.m.	Sunrise 6:59 a.m. Sunset 8:20 p.m.

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SHS Students of the Month

Sonora High School is proud to announce its Students of the Month for April 2017. Christina Garza, 9th, Wesley Dutton, 10th, Keeley Moore, 10th and Rafael Mendoza, 12th.

Students are nominated by the SHS teaching staff and recognized for their citizenship and work ethic in the classroom and extracurricular activities. Congratulations!



(L-R) Wesley Dutton, Rafael Mendoza, Keeley Moore, and Christina Garza.

Weekly Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

- Kick or knot
- Venerable
- Seaweed
- Astronomical place of worship
- Inlet
- Poplars: Sp.
- Rifle
- Instance of repartee
- Mention
- Protected mooring
- Peruvian coin
- Construct
- Sake or plate
- Irish storyteller
- Desert tribe
- Natural terrace
- Author of John Brown's Body
- Corroded
- Prima donna
- Leo, for one
- Citizens of Bucharest: var.
- Flee
- Roman poet
- Ancient money
- Ascend
- Kiln
- Egyptian skink
- Record
- Miss Gardner,

et al.

- Cease: naut.
- Iron in the rough
- Grape-like fruits
- Ottoman standard
- Fortification
- Tropical fruit
- Take care
- Transgression
- Then's partner
- Terminal: abbr.
- American

humorist

- Ant or -ace

DOWN

- Mariner
- labora
- Shrove Tuesday fare
- Filibuster
- Parasites
- East Indies mail system
- In play
- Be in a state of wonder
- I love: L.
- Italian composer
- Fragrance
- Craftily obtained
- Dodecanese island
- Cream
- Lovers, sometimes
- Monk
- Soak
- Russian river
- Indian coin
- Ape
- Buckle
- Gullible one
- Well-pleased: archaic
- Rhynchus
- American lithographer
- Impede: law
- Beetle
- Gamboled
- Impenetrable
- Sullivan, et al.
- Rested
- Egg-shaped
- With: Fr.
- Turn aside
- Solo
- Poisonous tree
- Wholehearted
- Reverence
- King of Judah
- Deer
- Possess

"BACK TALK"

See solution on Page 8

This crossword puzzle is sponsored each week by
Love Funeral Home
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City of Sonora

Senior Center

Monday May 1
Spanish Beef & Rice Casserole, Squash, Wheat Bread, Emeralds Pears, Milk

Tuesday May 2
Chicken Salad on Lettuce, Pasta Salad, Copper Penny Salad, Wheat Roll, Lemon Iced Cookie, Milk

Wednesday May 3
Meatloaf With Tomato Sauce, Mashed Potato, Broccoli, Wheat Roll, Ginger Crisp Cookie, Milk

Thursday May 4
Ranch Chicken, Sweet Potato, Lima Beans, Wheat Bread, Melon Cubes, Milk

Friday May 5
Fish Black-eyed Peas, Okra, Tomato, Gumbo, Wheat Roll, Fruit Cup, Oranges, Milk

For transportation to and from the center call
325-387-5657

Devil's River News Weekly Rainfall Report

April 1-25	1.23 in.	April 1-25	2.48 in.
March	0.07 in.	March	0.17 in.
February	1.36 in.	February	1.48 in.
January	2.40 in.	January	1.68 in.
2017 Year-to-Date Total	5.06 in.	2017 Year-to-Date Total	5.81 in.
2016	25.10 in.	2016	29.22 in.
2015	23.87 in.	2015	25.31 in.
2014	14.32 in.	2014	12.72 in.
2013	25.12 in.	2013	25.00 in.
2012	16.06 in.	2012	17.82 in.
2011	11.50 in.	2011	10.49 in.
2010	20.37 in.	2010	17.94 in.
2009	21.67 in.	2009	28.44 in.

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 14 miles southeast of Sonora.

Rainfall data collected at LCRA weather station located 17 miles east-northeast of Sonora.

Sponsored By:
Texas Farm Bureau Insurance
Ruth Wallace (325)387-6504

Going to ASU

Fifteen Sonora High School students signed a letter of intent with Angelo State University Thursday, April 20, 2017.

Of the fifteen, Jessica Paredes was awarded a Carr Scholarship to attend ASU in the fall of 2017.

Students from Sonora who will be attending ASU this fall include Jessica Paredes, Samantha Castro, Joseph Delgado, Bianca Fay, Josh Galindo, Julian Guerra, Caleb Galvan, Gabriel Garcia-Guzman, Jose Hernandez, Isaiah Lira, Ryker Marshall, Michael Mungia, Ronald Penceince, Ariel Lugo, Nydia Rodriguez and Carter Zook.

All of the students deserve to be congratulated on their success.



Pictured (Front L-R) Jessica Paredes, Bianca Fay, Nydia Rodriguez and Samantha Castro. (Back L-R) Gabriel Garcia, Julian Guerra, Michael Mungia, Josh Galindo, Isaiah Lira, Ryker Marshall, Caleb Galvan, Joseph Delgado, Jose Hernandez and Ariel Lugo. KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

SMS Students Earn 9th Place at State TMSCA

Twenty-six Sonora Middle School scholars made their mark at the 2017 State TMSCA meet Saturday, April 22, 2017 in San Antonio.

Of the 19 schools participating in the meet, SMS students were awarded 9th place in the meet.

Rising to their season goal of increasing the number of competitors from last year's 16 to this year's 27, students also demonstrated exceptional skill in a variety of academic tasks.

Of the 124 students testing in the 3-A division, with a total of 19 teams, Sonora was represented by 10 students in the Number Sense contest.

The SMS number sense team top four scores of the day came from Juan Alvarez-Torres, Kodi Davis, Abigail Duncan, and Aaron Noreiga with a total of 258 points placing them 9th overall.

6th Grade Results: Juan Alvarez-Torres placed 5th overall earning a trophy.

Koda Davis placed 9th overall earning a trophy. Aidan Leamon placed 24th and Gage Owen placed 25th.

7th Grade Results: Kodi Davis and Abigail Duncan tied for 20th place earning medals.

Sophia Gutierrez placed 36th.

8th Grade Results: Aaron Noreiga placed 32nd, Jaci Dutton placed 35th and Zachary Jefferion placed 43rd.

Next, the SMS calculator team of 8 took on their competition.

The top four scores of the day came from Montse De La Fuente, Alma Hernandez, Sophia Gutierrez,

and Jaci Dutton with a total of 635 points, improving 134 points from last year's total of 501, placing them 11th overall.

6th Grade Results: Montse De La Fuente placed 13th overall earning a medal.

Alma Hernandez placed 19th overall earning a medal.

Ari De Luna placed 36th.

7th Grade Results: Sophia Gutierrez placed 22nd overall and improved her score from a 107 to a 157 this year.

Isabella Arispe placed 25th overall and improved her score from 98 to a 152 this year.

Jessica Campa placed 31st.

8th Grade Results: Jaci Dutton placed 42nd place overall and improved her score to a personal best at a meet with a 155.

Zachary Jefferion placed 43rd place overall improving to his personal best score all three years with a 148.

The SMS math team brought 12 students to compete in this field with a 130 total students taking the test for the 3-A division.

The top four scores of the day came from Juan Alvarez-Torres, Gage Owen, Kodi Davis, and Molly Friess with a total of 218 points placing 8th overall.

SMS also earned two TMSCA State Champions at this meet in the math division.

6th Grade Results: Juan Alvarez-Torres and Gage Owen were named 3-A STATE CHAMPIONS with a tie score of 61.

Molly Friess placed 7th overall earning a trophy. Koda Davis placed 16th overall earning a medal.

Daniela Lozano placed 30th, Ignacio Coronado placed 44th overall, Aidan Leamon placed 48th and Alexis Hernandez placed 55th.

7th Grade Results: Kodi Davis placed 13th overall earning a medal. Abby Bennie placed 37th and Abigail Duncan placed 38th.

8th Grade Results: Jaci Dutton placed 30th overall.

Wrapping up the competition, the SMS science team of 9 student qualifiers competed against a total of 93 students in the 3-A division.

The top four scores of the day came from Aidan Leamon, Francisco Garza, Abigail Mendoza, and Juan Alvarez-Torres with a total of 325 points, improving 103 points from last year's total of 222, placing 9th place overall.

6th Grade Results: Aidan Leamon was awarded 3-A Runner-Up with a 2nd place finish.

Juan Alvarez-Torres placed 6th overall earning a trophy and Alexis Hernandez placed 20th overall earning a medal.

7th Grade Results: Abigail Mendoza placed 23rd overall. Fernanda Lozano placed 31st overall.

Catarino Hernandez placed 32nd overall.

8th Grade Results: Francisco Garza placed 26th overall. Zachary Jefferion placed 32nd and Juan Ruiz placed 34th.

All of the students deserve commendation for their hard work and accomplishments at the State TMSCA Competition.

What's for Lunch?

Sonora ISD Menu
 PK-5th : Free Breakfast & \$2.45 lunch
 Middle & High School: \$1.95 Breakfast & \$2.85 lunch
 *Menu Subject to Change

Monday May 1
 Breakfast
 Pancakes, Sausage, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
 Lunch
 Chicken Nuggets, Mashed Potatoes, Roll, Garden Salad, Tuscan Vegetables, Pears, Milk
 After School Program
 Chex, Strawberry Milk,

Tuesday May 2
 Breakfast
 Breakfast Pizza, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
 Lunch
 Pizza, Baby Carrots, Steamed Broccoli, Chilled Pineapple, Sugar Cookie, Milk
 After School Program
 Granola Bar, Milk

Wednesday May 3
 Breakfast
 Biscuit, Egg, Sausage, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
 Lunch
 Tex-Mex Stack, Lettuce, Tomato Garnish, Refried Beans, Salsa, Tiny Tomato Cup, Hot Cinnamon Apples, Milk
 After School Program
 Parfait Granola

Thursday May 4
 Breakfast
 Sausage Kolache, Cheese Sticks, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
 Lunch
 Hamburger, Cheese Burger, Fries, Hamburger Garnish, Coleslaw, Orange Smiles, Milk
 After School Program
 Baked Chips, Juice

Friday May 5
 Breakfast
 Breakfast Club, or Cereal, Crackers, 100% Fruit, Milk
 Lunch
 Chicken Parmesan, Breadsticks, Garden Salad, Savory Green Beans, Apple Slices, Milk
 After School Program
 Managers Choice

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 115 N. Concho Ave. Sonora, TX

Business Cards and Self-Inking Stamps on sale now at THE NEWS
 224 E. Main Street
 387-2507

Senior Luncheon May 3, 2017

Grad Selections now available

Special Gifts for Special Grads

Jon Hart luggage with free monogramming

Hodgepodgees
 Rosey Bud Florist
 325-387-5507
 410 S. Crockett, Sonora, TX 76950

VOTE Jock Dutton

for
Sonora ISD School District Board Member Pct. 3

"I will be a voice for the hard working teachers who are the backbone of our school. Without excellent qualified teachers our students suffer."

Early Voting April 24 - May 2
 Election Day May 6

For more information or to speak with the candidate please call 325-387-5566

Political Ad paid for by Jock Dutton

Hodgepodgees Rosey Bud Florist

Wedding Selections now available

Stelly Ingham
 bride elect of Jacob Kelly

Meredith Earwood
 bride elect of Bill Allen

Taylor Narvaiz
 bride elect of Tyler Creek

325-387-5507
 410 S. Crockett, Sonora, TX 76950

Sutton County Library

May 1 - May 5
 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Book Sale

Children, Juveniles, Adults, Fiction, Nonfictions

306 E. Mulberry Street, Sonora, TX 76950

Colt Band Awarded UIL Sweepstakes

The Sonora Middle School Colt Band earned the UIL Sweepstakes Award for their exceptional performance at the UIL Region 6 East Zone Concert - Sight-reading Evaluation Wednesday, April 19, 2017 in Abilene.

This is the eighth UIL Sweepstakes accomplishment for Sonora Middle School.

Previous UIL Sweepstakes trophies include 1980, 1981, 1989, 1993, 2013, 2014 and 2015.

The 7th-8th grade band received a total of three

ratings of 1st in Concert and two ratings of 1st and one rating of 2nd in Site-reading to earn the UIL Sweepstakes Trophy.

In concert, students performed a march and two additional songs from a list chosen by the State. The performance is rated on a 5-division scale by three judges from throughout the state.

Only a Superior rating receives recognition by UIL in the form of a plaque.

Following their third song performance on stage, the band re-assembles to

perform a song written by UIL that has never been seen before in order to best measure the student's mastery of music education.

Again, the performance is rated by three judges on a 5-division scale.

A 1st division rating in both the Concert and the Sight-reading portion is recognized by a trophy known as the "Sweepstakes" award.

All of the students deserve commendation for their hard work and accomplishments.

Congratulations!

WWW.DEVILSRIVER.NEWS

Early Voting April 24 - May 2
 Courthouse Annex Building

May 6
 Sonora ISD Admin Bldg.

VOTE

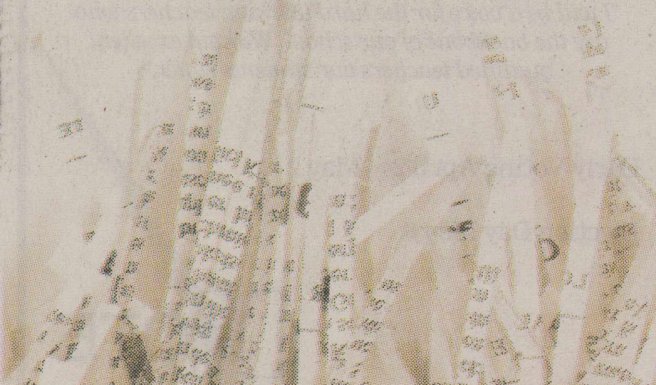
Brady JOHNSON 3

Sonora ISD School Board Member

"An effective advocate for your Kids, your Teachers, your District and your Taxes."

Political ad paid for by Brady Johnson

FREE
Community-Wide
Shred Day
Tuesday, May 9th
2 to 6 p.m.
The Bank & Trust
229 Hwy. 277 North



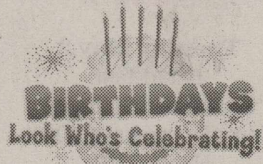
**Sonora Elementary
Early Registration**

Pre-registration for the Sonora Elementary School 2017-2018 school year will be held Tuesday, May 2 through Thursday, May 4 from Sonora Elementary Early Registration 7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. at the Sonora Elementary School Office.

Please bring your child's birth certificate, social security card, immunization record and guardian photo identification.

Early registration is for new enrollees only.

For more information please call 325-387-6951.



APRIL

27th Tanner Esparza, Tate Shannon, Melinda Patland, Mona Prieto
28th Hector Mendez Sr., Meredith Earwood
29th Angela Crittendon, Candise Perez
30th Nancy Davis, Jayce Martinez, Ryan Mungia

MAY

1st Chris Martin, Jaime Wardlaw
2nd Phillip Stephens, John Downing, Clayton Sarra
3rd Keeley Moore, Rudley Bryan

Send us your birthdays to editor@devilsriver.news

**Everett's Pharmacy
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**DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS
PRINTING**
LETTERHEAD,
ENVELOPES, BUSINESS
CARDS, SINGLE SHEET,
MULTI-PART
387-2507



The Sonora Broncos celebrate their first place District 3-A Area Track & Field Meet championship Thursday, April 20, 2017 in Sonora. The Broncos finished ahead of their area competitors with 178 points total. Next, the Broncos prepare the upcoming Regional Meet in hopes of advancing to State.

KATHY MANKIN | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

Broncos Win Area Track & Field

Continuing their season perfect record, the Sonora Broncos claimed the championship trophy in the District 3-A Area Track and Field Competition Thursday, April 20, 2017.

The Broncos placed first with a total of 178 points.

The Lady Broncos earned fourth overall in the area competition with 88 points total.

Varsity Boys Results:

100 M Run:
Jarrett Jackson, 2nd, 10.91
200 M Run:
Michael Solis, 5th, 23.32
Kaden Cordell, 6th, 23.53
400 M Run:
Wesley Dutton, 4th, 53.17
800 M Run:
Slade Dermody, 2nd, 1:59.24
Evan Shannon, 4th, 2:02.94
1600 M Run:
Slade Dermody, 5th, 4:49.21
3200 M Run:
Raully Ojeda, 7th, 11:30.42
110 M Hurdles:
Carter Zook, 1st, 14.44

300 M Hurdles:

Carter Zook, 1st, 39.26
200 M Relay:
Buitron, Jackson, Cordell, Munoz, 1st, 1:30.60
400 M Relay:
Carter, Buitron, Dutton, Johnson, 1st, 3:22.35
High Jump:
Kaden Cordell, 1st, 6-03.00
Wilson Johnson, 4th, 5-08.00
Long Jump:
Drew Buitron, 2nd, 20-10.00
Pole Vault:
Carter Zook, 3rd, 12-00.00
Discus:
Michael Solis, 1st, 152-08
Liam Yourgalite, 5th, 124-09
Shot Put:
Liam Yourgalite, 1st, 51-06.00
Triple Jump:
Kaden Cordell, 1st, 41-04.75
Willie Munoz, 2nd, 41-03.00
David Delgado, 3rd, 40-11.00

1:03.09

800 M Run:
Mary Kyle Johnsons, 2nd, 2:30.41
3200 M Run:
Traci Vickers, 8th, 14:38.58
300 M Hurdles:
Carly Brown, 4th, 51.76
400 M Relay:
Brown, Smith, Gonzalez, Johnson, 6th, 4:27.32
High Jump:
Mary Kyle Johnson, 2nd, 5-00
Pole Vault:
Lane Cahill, 3rd, 9-06.00
Aleasha Smith, 7th, 8-00.00
Long Jump:
Angela Gonzalez, 5th, 16-03.00
Karah Martinez, 6th, 16-02.50
Tripple Jump:
Carly Brown, 5th, 32-08.50

Next, Sonora athletes travel to Abilene to participate in the Regional Track Meet set for April 28-29, 2017.

**Proud Supporters
of the
Broncos
and
Lady Broncos**



325-387-3470

Holmes Wrecker Service
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-Baseball & Softball Senior Night-



SHS Seniors Raully Ojeda Biera, Michael Mungia, Caleb Galvan, Noah SanMiguel, Isaih Lira, Henry Ramos and Samantha Castro stand while being recognized Friday night, April 21, 2017, at Broncos baseball field.

DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Riley Walker (center), a SHS senior, stands with her family while being recognized during Senior Night Friday, April 21, 2017, at the Lady Broncos softball field in Sonora. The Lady Broncos softball team wrapped up their season with their last conference game against Reagan County this past Friday.

DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS



Nydia Rodriguez (center), a SHS senior, stands with her family Friday, April 21, 2017, during a special Senior Night recognition celebration at the Lady Broncos softball field.

DANNY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

**SAN ANGELO
Gives**

May 2, 2017
Midnight - 11:50 p.m.



Please make your tax-deductible donation to either or both the food pantry and health foundation through **sanangelogives.org** on May 2, and we will be eligible for additional amplified funds from the San Angelo Area Foundation.



sanangelogives.org



DRN Comics

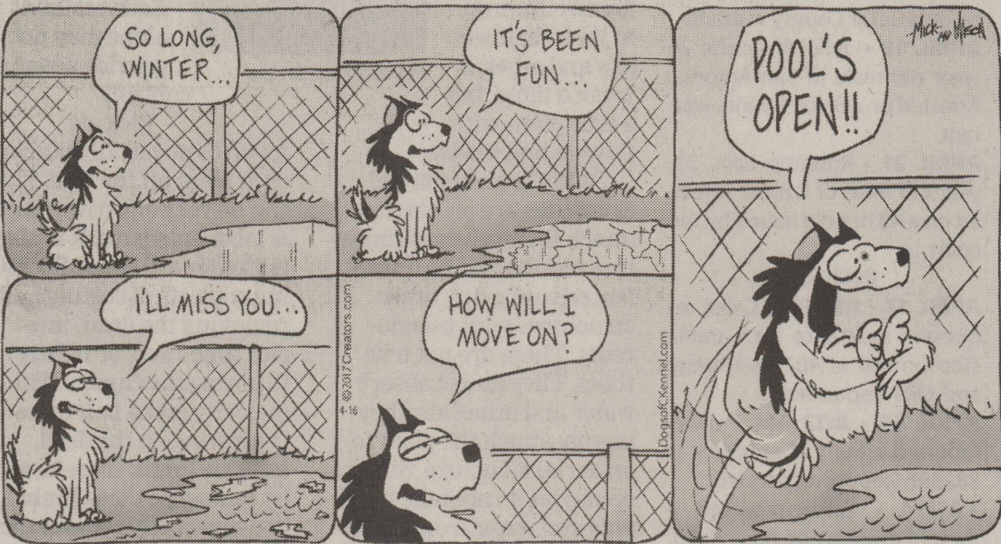
Daddy's Home

by Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



Dogs of C-Kennel

by Mick and Mason Mastroianni

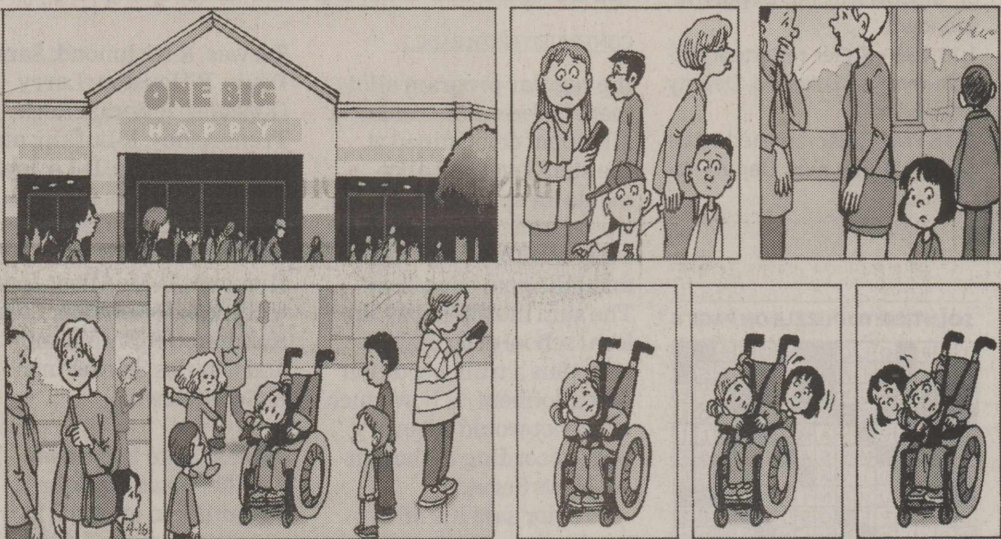
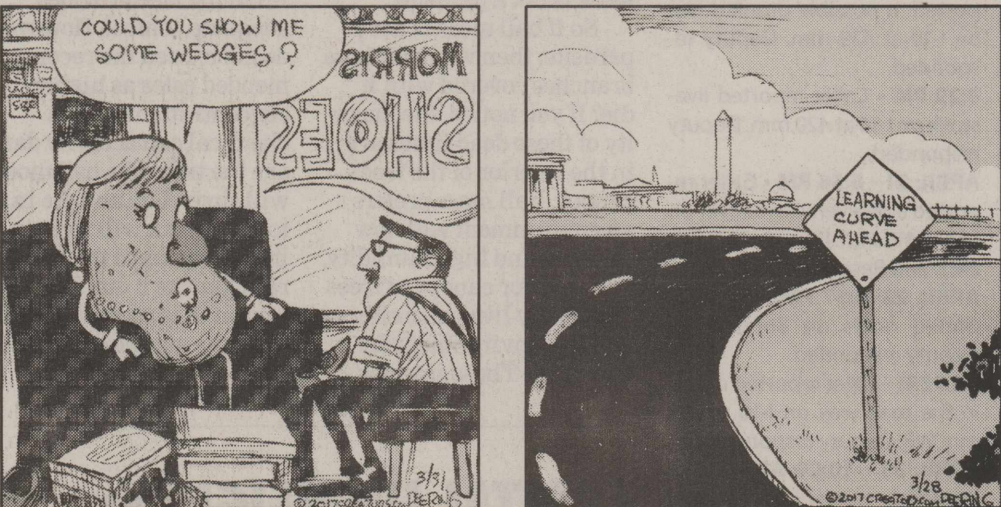


Strange Brew

by John Deering

Strange Brew

by John Deering



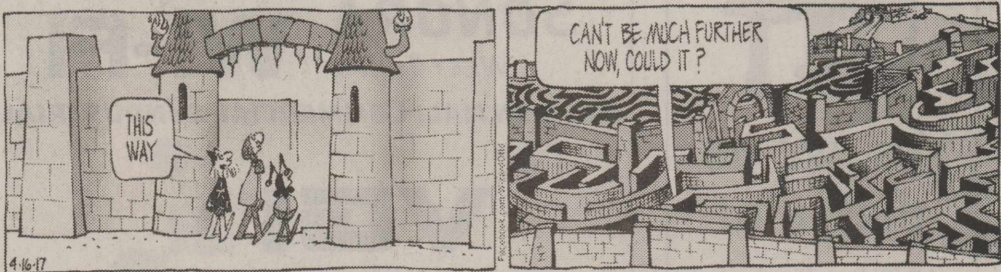
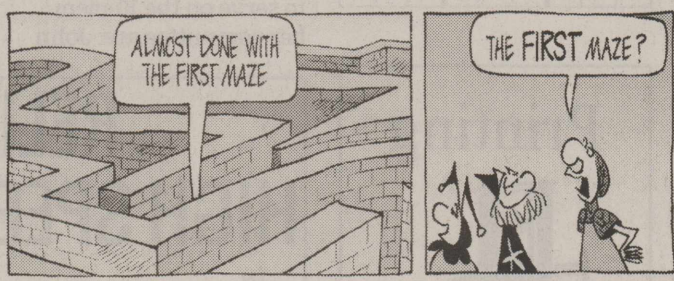
Nest Heads

by John Allen



Wizard of ID

by parker and hart

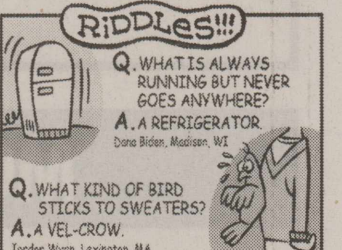
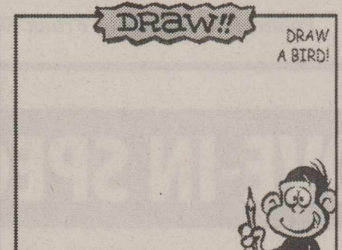
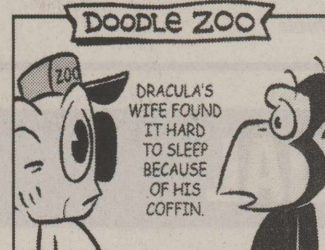
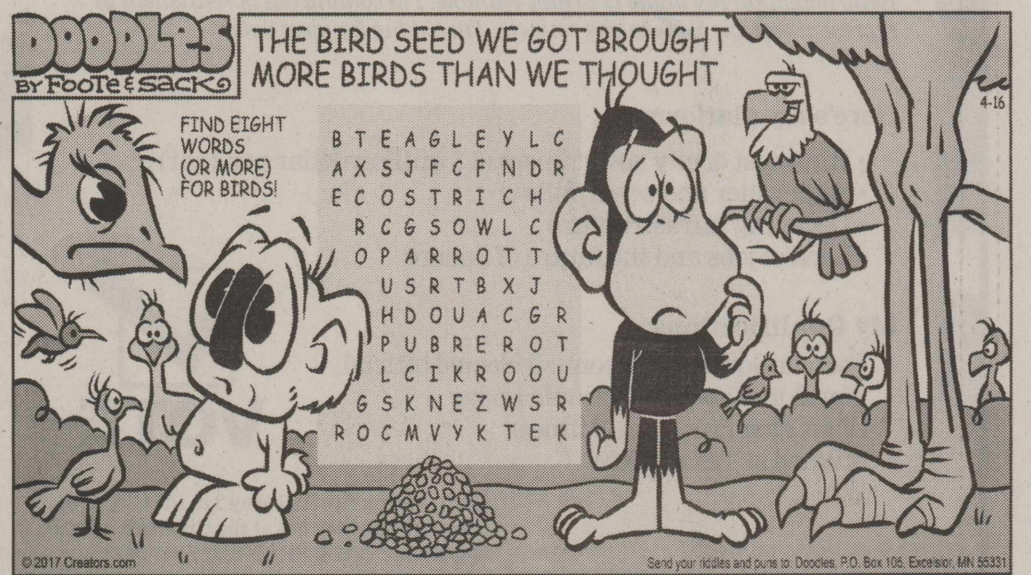
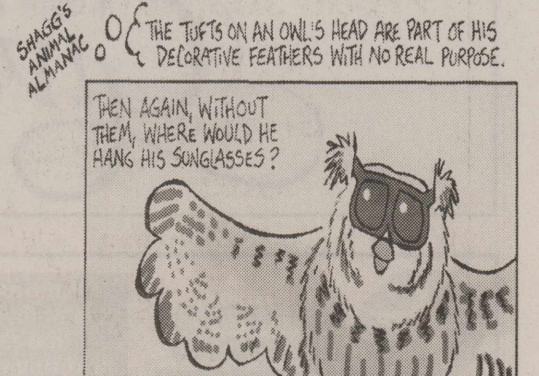
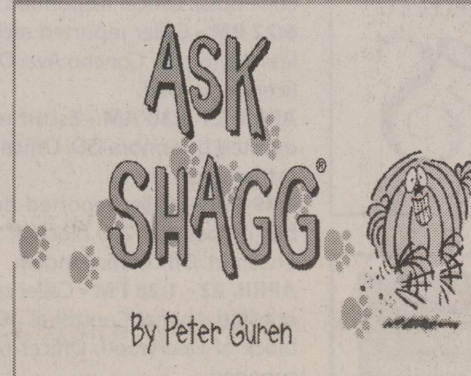
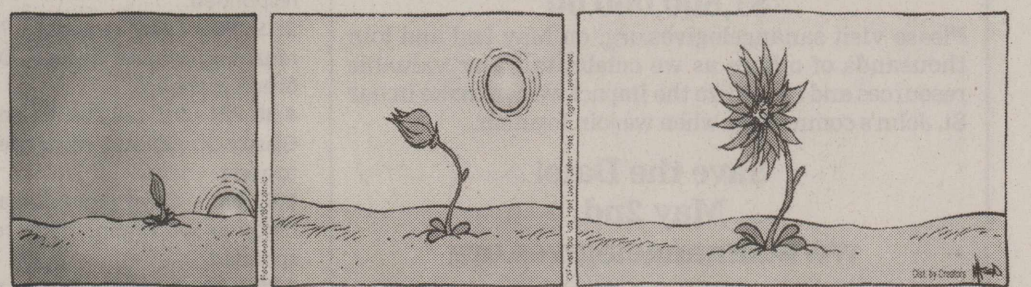
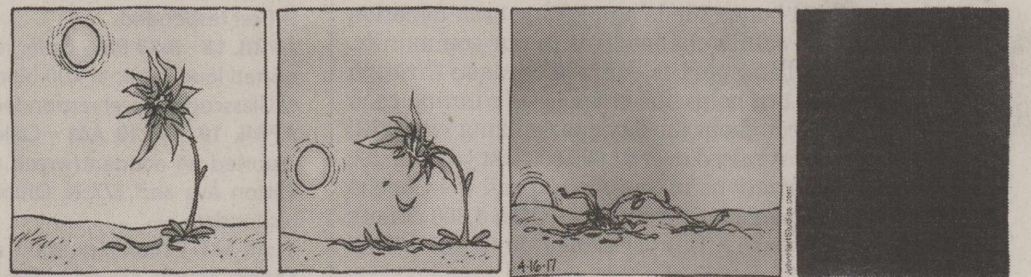
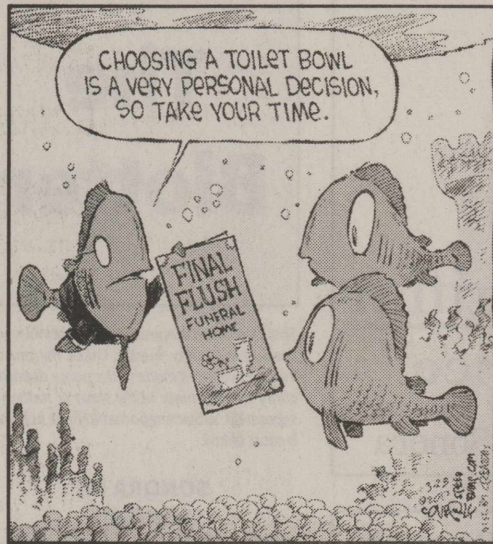


Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly

Speed Bumps

by Dave Coverly



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		2			4
4		1			
	6	7	9		2
3			2	9	
7	8			6	1
	9	1			8
8	1		3	7	2
			8		7
9			4		

Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

SEE SOLUTIONS ON PAGE 8

ZIG-ZAG

THE ORIGINAL WORD MAZE PUZZLE

FLATLANDS OF THE WORLD

ALL WORDS TO BE CONSTRUCTED PERTAIN TO THE ABOVE TOPIC. TO YOUR ADVANTAGE ONE WORD HAS ALREADY BEEN TRACED. YOU MUST TRACE THE THREE REMAINING WORDS, USING ONLY THE LETTERS DESIGNATED BY THE DARKENED CIRCLES. WORDS MAY BEGIN AND END FROM EITHER COLUMN BUT EACH LETTER CAN ONLY BE USED ONCE.

★★★★

EACH PUZZLE HAS A DIFFICULTY RATING (ABOVE). FOUR STARS SIGNIFY THE HIGHEST DEGREE OF DIFFICULTY.

GIVEN BELOW ARE THE POINT VALUES FOR EACH WORD. YOUR WORDS MUST CORRECTLY MATCH THESE POINT VALUES.

8					
11					
12					
14					

STEPPE



Cauthorn and Griffin
Ranch Insurance
Eldorado • Del Rio • Ozona • Sonora

St. John's Episcopal Church Participating San Angelo Gives Event May 2, 2017

This year St. John's Episcopal Church has signed up to participate in the San Angelo Gives, 24-hour campaign for May 2nd. On May 2nd from midnight to 11:59 pm, your support will make a meaningful difference to St. John's Episcopal Church including our numerous programs supporting worthwhile and needy causes in Sonora and Sutton County. Every gift of \$10 or more will go further with bonus funds amplifying each donation and helping St. John's change lives in our community. The really exciting part is every gift made through sanangelogives.org helps our chances of winning cash prizes given throughout the day, maximizing your gift! San Angelo Gives raised over \$1,000,000 last year for 130 nonprofit organizations in San Angelo and the Concho Valley. This money came from more than 4,300 donors in a 24-hour period. i.e. Day of Giving [May 2, 2017]. This year the goal is:

\$1,500,000.00

Please visit sanangelogives.org, on May 2nd and join thousands of others as we celebrate, raise valuable resources and recognize the impact we can make in our St. John's community when we join together.

Save the Date!
May 2nd
www.sanangelogives.org




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Master Plumber M-38127


Hello neighbor, My name is Frank Wamble. I'm coming out of retirement to represent you for Sonora city council. I'm asking for your vote.

Here's my platform:

- High cost of city government (6.3 million dollar per year)
- High water and sewer bills
- Decaying infrastructure
- Lack of jobs and the future of Sonora

My Qualifications:

- Former Sonora City council elected official,
- Worship Master of Masonic Lodge
- Lions club president (3 times)
- Studied at Texas A&M



Early Voting April 24 May 2 at the City Hall
Election Day May 6th at the City Hall
Questions? CALL FRANK 325-387-2672

Political Ad paid for by Frank Wamble

MOVE-IN SPECIAL

\$99 First Month's Rent

The Landmark Apartments
103 Dollie - Sonora, TX 76950

1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms Available



325-387-2104
Office located at 803 Crockett Ave.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

The Blotter



The Blotter is a summary of the previous week's activity by the Sonora Police Department and the Sutton County Sheriff's Office. For practical reasons of time and space, The Blotter does not include every call made to the police department or Sheriff's Office, nor does it include routine security checks, minor traffic stops or routine patrols. Accidents of major impact may be reported separately. Subjects reported to have been arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

SONORA PD ARRESTS

APRIL 21 • Thomas William Johnson, 30-year old male from North Carolina. Arrested for Failure to Identify Fugitive Intent Give False Info, Public Intoxication and Warrant out of Austin.

INCIDENTS

APRIL 17 5:45 PM • Caller reported theft at Road Ranger. Officer responded.

6:50 PM • Caller requested an officer at 100 block of Glasscock. Officer responded.

APRIL 18 - 6:53 PM • Caller reported loud music at 400 block of Glasscock. Officer responded.

APRIL 19 - 11:10 AM • Caller reported an accident/wreck at Sutton Ave and 277 N. Officer responded.

11:48 AM • Officer requested at Sonora Middle School. Officer responded.

2:15 PM • Caller requested PD regarding Criminal Trespass. Officer responded.

4:30 PM • 911 call Del Rio and Glasscock. Officers responded to assist.

9:42 PM • Caller requested an officer at 500 Virgen. Officer responded.

APRIL 20 - 1:35 PM • Alarm call 600 Poplar. Officer responded

6:22 PM • Caller reported reckless driving on Concho Ave. Officer responded.

APRIL 21 8:30 AM • Escort requested by Sonora ISD. Officers responded.

4:49 PM • Caller reported debris in roadway 200 block of E. Chestnut. Officer responded.

APRIL 22 - 1:28 PM • Caller requested Animal Control at 100 block of Deerwood. Officer responded.

APRIL 23 - 8:51 PM • Caller reported fire on Loop 467. Officer responded.

9:07 PM • Caller reported loud music at Calle Real. Officer responded.

11:25 PM • Caller reported theft at Stripes Subway. Officer responded.

SUTTON COUNTY SHERIFF ARRESTS

APRIL 18 • Kevin Trejo, 23-year old male of San Antonio. Arrested on a Bexar County warrant.

APRIL 19 • Julio Alvarado, 26-year old male of San Antonio. Arrested on a Bexar County warrant.

APRIL 21 • Rosendo Lara, 24-year old male of Ozona. Arrested on a 48 hr hold issued by the court.

INCIDENT

APRIL 17 - 1:05 PM • Caller requested assistance for a traffic stop on I-10 at 402 W. Deputy and DPS responded.

APRIL 19 - 8:22 AM • Caller reported a theft of property at RR2597. Deputy responded.

1:25PM • Caller reported a theft of property on River Road. Deputy responded.

APRIL 20 - 5:36 AM • Caller reported a possible drunk driver on I-10 at 429 mm. Deputy responded.

8:29 PM • Caller reported livestock on I-10 at 420 mm. Deputy responded.

APRIL 21 - 6:56 PM • Caller reported a one vehicle rollover on I-10 at 419 mm. Deputy, Trooper, EMS, and Rescue responded.

APRIL 22 - 4:57 PM • Caller reported goats on Bond Road. Deputy responded.

5:15 PM • Caller reported debris in the road way on I-10 at 383 mm WB. Deputy responded.

APRIL 23 - 10:00 AM • Caller reported suspicious activity on Bloodworth Rd. Deputy responded.

1:13 PM • Caller reported possible theft on Baker Rd. Deputy responded.

5:38 PM • Caller reported cattle on I-10 at 429 mm. Deputy responded.

SOLUTION TO PUZZLE ON PAGE 4

T	O	P	O	L	D	A	G	A	R				
A	R	A	R	I	A	A	L	A	M	O	S		
R	A	N	S	A	C	K	R	I	P	O	S	T	
C	I	T	E	C	O	V	E	S	O	L			
F	R	A	M	E	N	A	M	E	F	I	L	L	
R	E	K	I	M	E	S	A	B	E	N	E	T	
A	T	E	D	I	V	A	F	E	L	L	I	N	E
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D	E	S	T	A	D	E	T	E	N				

FLAT LANDS OF THE WORLD

8 LLANO
11 TUNDRA
12 BUSH
14 STEPPE

3	5	9	6	2	8	7	1	4
2	4	7	3	1	5	8	6	9
1	8	6	7	9	4	3	2	5
5	3	1	8	6	2	4	9	7
7	2	8	4	5	9	6	3	1
6	9	4	1	7	3	5	8	2
8	1	5	9	3	7	2	4	6
4	6	2	5	8	1	9	7	3
9	7	3	2	4	6	1	5	8

Ball Moss on Oak Trees

I frequently like to share some of the interesting calls and questions that are presented to the Extension Office. One such call dealt with "grass-like" growths on an oak tree. Though rare in our area, it is probably "ball moss".

What is ball moss? Ball moss (*Tillandsia recurvata*) is a small epiphyte commonly found clinging to limbs of live-oaks and other. It is not a moss, but a true plant with flowers and seeds.

What is an epiphyte? Epiphytes are plants that attach themselves to limbs, tree trunks, power lines, fences, and many other structures with pseudo-roots. These are not true roots. They do not absorb water and minerals; they merely attach the plant to an aerial structure. Since epiphytes do not take nutrients and water from these aerial structures, they are not parasites; therefore, ball moss is not a parasite.

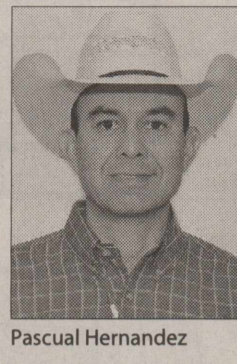
So if ball moss is not a parasite, then why did those branches covered with it die? If you notice, the majority of these dead limbs are in the interior of the tree's canopy. Ball moss prefers an environment with low sunlight and high humidity. The interior canopy of trees (especially live oaks) offers an ideal environment for ball moss. These interior

limbs die from a lack of sunlight; then the ball moss plants colonize these branches.

If the tree is heavily covered with ball moss, control is recommended. If it is a light infestation and does not bother you, control is not necessary. Ball moss can be controlled by picking, pruning or spraying. Each method alone may not provide adequate control.

Picking involves physically pulling each plant off the tree. This can be very effective, but is labor-intensive. It is also tricky for tall trees. Pruning consists of cutting and removing the dead, interior limbs and/or lightly thinning the canopy. The majority of the ball moss is growing on the dead, interior limbs; therefore, by removing these limbs, you physically remove the majority of the ball moss.

Foliar spraying Kocide 101 to the tree provides adequate control. However, do not exceed the recommended rates as higher concentrations of this chemical can actually damage the tree. The ball moss will shrivel up and die in 5 to 7 days, but will remain in the tree until the wind or rain knocks it out. For this reason, it is recommended to prune out the deadwood first.



Pascual Hernandez

CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS: Senate

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

the regular program allotment based on the basic allotment determined at the state level and allotments for special education, career and technology, compensatory education and bilingual education. The sum multiplied by the local school property tax rate, plus a transportation cost allotment, is how much a district would get every year, according to the Senate News Service.

Taylor said his bill "establishes a fresh start for school finance by removing inefficiencies and creating a funding system based on actual costs and that takes taxpayer effort into consideration." His formula is designed to take into account local tax effort, he said, such that districts could hold elections to increase local property taxes up to the current cap of \$1.17 and would receive more money commensurate with each penny increase.

Budget to be hashed out
Speaker Straus and Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick last week appointed members to a conference committee whose job it will be to reconcile differences in House version and the Senate version of Senate Bill 1, the state budget for 2018 and 2019.

House members named to serve on the 10-member committee are: John

Zerwas, R-Richmond; Sarah Davis, R-Houston; Larry Gonzales, R-Round Rock; Trent Ashby, R-Lufkin; and Oscar Longoria, D-La Joya. Senate members include: Jane Nelson, R-Flower Mound; Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen; Joan Huffman, R-Houston; Lois Kolkhorst, R-Brenham; and Charles Schwertner, R-Georgetown.

Jobless rate increases
The Texas Workforce Commission on April 21 reported that the Lone Star State's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 5.0 percent during the month of March, up slightly from 4.9 percent in February.

Despite the increase in the unemployment rate, the Texas job total showed continued health in March with the addition of 9,500 seasonally adjusted non-farm jobs.

The Texas Workforce Commission also reported that the Amarillo Metropolitan Statistical Area recorded the month's lowest unemployment rate among Texas MSAs with a non-seasonally adjusted rate of 3.5 percent, followed by a rate of 3.6 percent achieved by the College Station-Bryan and Austin-Round Rock MSAs. The Lubbock and Midland MSAs each registered a rate of 4.0 percent for March.

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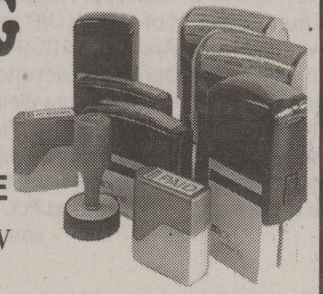
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Sutton County officials sport caps provided by the Texas Association of Counties as part of a "Hat's Off" campaign thanking them for their service Monday, April 24, 2017. (Front L-R) David Wallace, County Attorney, Rachel Duran, District and County Clerk, Mike Villanueva, Commissioner Pct. 1 and Maura Weingart, County Auditor. (Back L-R) Jodi Harris, Justice of the Peace, Fred Perez, Commissioner Pct. 4, Steve Smith, County Judge, Carl Teaff, Commissioner Pct. 3, Standley Clay Anderson, Director of Road & Bridge, Oscar Chavez, Sheriff and Bob Brockman, Commissioner Pct. 2.

KIMBERLEY MEYER | THE DEVIL'S RIVER NEWS

COMMISSIONERS:

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

trucks for the Road and Bridge department. The approval is contingent upon the approval of a public bidding entity by the State. They also approved the advertisement of bids for leasing a rubber tire loader. The court also approved a sealed bid received for the purchase of asphalt. The bid included two thousand tons of pre-coated gravel and delivery.

Next, the court approved a motion to lower the rental fee for the Pavilion to \$200. This rental fee also includes the use of the kitchen.

Finally, the court approved seeking bids for repairs to the baseball field bathrooms.

Without further discussion or comments from visitors, the meeting adjourned.

Judge Steve Smith presided over the meeting. Commissioners Fred Perez, Mike Villanueva, Bob Brockman and Carl Teaff were present.

The next regular meeting of the Sutton County Commissioners Court is set for May 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the County Annex Building.

Col. (Ret.) Bradley Inducted into Army ROTC Hall of Fame

Retired Colonel Pete Bradley, Sonora resident, was inducted into the St. Bonaventure University Seneca Battalion Army ROTC Hall of Fame on April 1, 2017.

For your consideration, the following story was published by Bonaventure University.

We thank Col. Bradley for his service.

Peter W. Bradley '59 Colonel (Ret.) Peter W. Bradley, an economics major from the Bronx, New York, was commissioned an artillery second lieutenant through the Army ROTC program upon graduation from St. Bonaventure University in 1959.

He graduated from the Air Defense Artillery School at Fort Bliss and was assigned to the 56th ADA Brigade, Fort Banks, Massachusetts, where he served as a Nike Hercules Battery missile fire control platoon leader and as a launcher platoon leader in Thule, Greenland, before being ordered to Fort Rucker for

pilot training.

Earning his aviator's wings, Bradley was assigned to IV US Corps in Birmingham, Alabama, where his duties included serving as the corps commander's pilot.

He returned to Fort Sill for the Artillery Officer Career Course and received orders to a then-highly classified aviation unit, the 224th Aviation Battalion (RR), to be formed in the Republic of Viet Nam. There, from 1966 to 1967, he flew missions to find, fix and electronically identify enemy transmitters and pass the information for targeting.

He earned the Distinguished Flying Cross for heroism when his he completed a mission despite his aircraft being heavily damaged by enemy fire.

He reported to The Army Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs as an aviation staff officer, was promoted to major and given the task to allocate newly-acquired U-21

aircraft maintenance and air crew training. The assignment required him to be trained in factory maintenance and to become a Beechcraft instructor pilot.

Ordered back to Vietnam as the 1st Cavalry Division's 227th Assault Helicopter Battalion executive officer, he eventually commanded Company C (Ghostriders) at the height of the Cambodian invasion in 1970. After being severely burned while rescuing a downed helicopter crew, he recovered in San Antonio, Texas and was awarded the Soldiers Medal for heroism.

Bradley graduated from Command and General Staff College and served as executive officer of 4/1 ADA (Nike Hercules) and S-3 of the 23rd ADA Group.

He coordinated the inactivation of two nuclear capable air defense battalions and the 23rd ADA Group before being reassigned to Northeast Region Recruiting Command. Promoted to lieutenant colonel, he became the first dedicated Aviation Assignments Officer in the U.S. Army Military Personnel Center.

He commanded the 4/1 ADA Battalion (Chaparral Vulcan) in the III U.S. Corps at Fort Bliss, Texas and then attended the US Army War College at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. During this time, he completed the requirements for a master's degree at Shippensburg State University. He became the inspector general of the 21st Support

Command in Germany and, promoted to colonel, returned in 1981 to Fort Bliss, Texas to serve as TRADOC systems manager for the Stinger missile system, as well as the Short Range ADA (Shorad) command & control system.

Upon its successful fielding, he retired in 1985, having completed 26 years of continuous active duty.

For the next 16 years, he was responsible for several programs as a consultant with the Westinghouse and Northrop Grumman Corporation.

He has served in numerous civic and community leadership positions as an elected alderman in Sonora, Texas, with the St. Ann Parish Council, as a board member for The Lions Eye Bank and the Director of the Bronco Nation seven-on-seven football program.

Bradley's military awards include the Legion of Merit (1 OLC), Distinguished Flying Cross, Soldier's Medal, Bronze Star (1 OLC), Air Medal with numeral 33 and Valor device; Meritorious Service Medal (3 OLCs), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLCs), Valorous Unit Award (1 OLC), Meritorious Unit Commendation (1 OLC), National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal (4 Bronze service stars), Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with palm (2nd award), Master Army Aviator Badge, Ancient Order of St. Barbara Medal and the Honorable Order of St. Michael Medal.

"Rope for Warriors" Parade and Roping Event, May 5-6

The public is invited to participate in a parade honoring active duty military and veterans on Friday, May 5, 2017.

The parade kicks off the annual "Rope for the Warriors" fundraiser event benefiting Combat Marine Outdoors and the men and women it helps.

In addition to providing some fun and friendly competition, this annual fundraiser provides money needed for activities designed to reintroduce military individuals into civilian life.

Beginning at 2:00 p.m., at the Comfort Inn, the parade participants will make their way through downtown Sonora Friday afternoon.

Everyone is encouraged to show their support for our service men and women.

For more information or to participate place call 325-226-9880. To inquire about the roping call 325-206-0724 or 206-0722. To learn more about Combat Marine Outdoors visit <https://combatmarineoutdoors.org>

Tips to Keep Your Child Safe Around Water This Summer

Few things are as much fun as splashing around at the beach or in a backyard pool, but not every child is confident about taking the plunge.

"For some children, the idea of getting in the water and trying to swim can be a bit frightening," says K.J. Hales, author of *It's Hard to Swim*, the second and most recent addition to the *Life's Little Lessons* by Ellie the Wienerdog educational picture book series (www.elliethewienerdog.com).

"But with the proper positive reinforcement, they can overcome their fears and discover just how much fun swimming can be."

May is National Water Safety Month, a good time for parents to consider teaching their children how to swim.

The American Academy of Pediatrics supports swimming lessons for most children 4 years and older. Water safety classes can also reduce the risk of drowning in younger children, the pediatrics group reports, but advises that because children develop at different rates, not all will be ready to swim at the same age.

Hales, who offers teachers' guides and educational

activities to go along with the lessons in her books, says she chose swimming as one of Ellie the Wienerdog's adventures because it's a valuable skill that all children should learn.

"Most children are around water in some form, whether it's a pool, a river, a pond, a lake or the ocean," she says. "So learning to swim isn't just for fun. It's also important for safety."

The Pediatric Academy cites several water-safety tips for parents, including:

- Never – even for a moment – leave small children alone or in the care of another young child while in bathtubs, pools, spas or wading pools, or near irrigation ditches or standing water.

- Empty water from buckets and other containers immediately after use.
- To prevent drowning in toilets, young children should not be left alone in the bathroom.

- Closely supervise children in and around water. With infants, toddlers and weak swimmers, an adult should be within an arm's length. With older children and better swimmers, an adult should be focused on the child and not distracted by other activities. Bath seats cannot substitute for adult supervision.

- If children are in out-of-home child care, ask about exposure to water and the ratio of adults to children.

- If you have a pool, install a four-sided fence that is at least 4-feet high to limit access to the pool. The fence should be hard to climb (not chain-link) and have a self-latching, self-closing gate. Families may consider pool alarms and rigid pool covers as additional layers of protection, but neither can take the place of a fence.

- Parents, caregivers and pool owners should learn CPR.

- Do not use air-filled swimming aids (such as inflatable arm bands) in place of life jackets. They can deflate and are not designed to keep swimmers safe.

- All children should wear a life jacket when riding in a boat. Small children and non-swimmers should also wear one at water's edge, such as on a river bank or pier.

"When Ellie finally swims, she realizes that learning something new is wonderful and if you give it a try, you can do anything you wish," Hales says. "This is a lesson I hope all children will take to heart, not only when learning to swim, but also when facing any challenge that comes their way."

Reader Recipes

"Oreo Cheesecake"

The health and well being of the people in the community has always been important to The Sonora Woman's Club. Beginning in 1923 with Dr. Blanton, City Health Officer, members have shown support for the many physicians who have cared for Sonora's residents. Dr. Kristy Edwards "Oreo Cheesecake" cures every sweet tooth.

CRUST:

- 1 & 1/2 cup crushed graham crackers
- 1/4 cup packed light brown sugar
- 7 Tablespoons unsalted butter, melted

Combine graham crackers and brown sugar. Add melted butter, blend until combined. Press into pan. Set aside.

CHEESECAKE:

- 2 & 1/4 cup heavy cream
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 pound cream cheese, softened
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2/3 cup sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla powder
- 3/4 cup Oreo cookies, crushed

Beat heavy cream until medium peaks form. Set aside. Add cream cheese, sugar, salt, vanilla powder, and lemon juice to a bowl and beat with a paddle attachment until smooth (approximately 3-5 minutes). Add cream cheese mixture to heavy cream; beat until incorporated. Gently fold in Oreo cookies. Fill chosen pan with a slight mound at the center, as the cheesecake will become slightly sunken at the center. Refrigerate for at least 6 hours to set or overnight for best results. Remove from refrigerator and smooth top to level with edges. Serve with whipping cream, and garnish with mini Oreos.

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